

Amended Horticultural Netting Program – trial

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule

Parties	Commonwealth Victoria Queensland Western Australia New South Wales Tasmania Northern Territory
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 31 December 2027.
Purpose	This Schedule will support the delivery of funds to primary producers of commercial horticulture crops to purchase and install horticultural netting to increase crop productivity. This Schedule is an amendment of the Schedule signed by the Commonwealth, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia in the 2020 – 2021 financial year in which the Commonwealth provided a \$9m estimated total financial contribution to those States (outlined in Table 1 below). This Schedule was amended for the Commonwealth to provide an additional \$33m estimated financial contribution to States in the 2021 – 2022 financial year. This amended Schedule also includes New South Wales, Tasmania and the Northern Territory as parties. This schedule was amended in 2026 to allow New South Wales to use residual Commonwealth funding allocated to New South Wales to support the delivery of the New South Wales Wine Recovery Program.

Estimated financial contributions	The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of \$42.0 million in respect of this Schedule.			
	Table 1			
	(\$ million)	2020-21	2021-22	Total
	Estimated total budget	9.0	33.0	42.0
	Less estimated National Partnership	9.0	33.0	42.0
	- VIC	4.6	11.2	15.9
	- QLD	2.2	10.9	13.1
	- WA	2.2	2.6	4.8
	- NSW	0.0	5.9	5.9
	- TAS	0.0	1.9	1.9
	- NT	0.0	0.4	0.4
	Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	0.0	0.0	0.0
Additional terms	For the purpose of this Schedule: Eligible primary producers for each State can be found at Table 2 Appendix A – Project Eligibility Criteria for the respective State.			

Table 2 Appendix A – Project Eligibility Criteria

Guidance to the State of New South Wales on eligibility for Commonwealth funding under the Horticultural Netting Program.

1. The State of New South Wales will make available a total pool of \$5,620,124 for payments to eligible primary producers.
2. The State of New South Wales will retain \$295,796 from the State's \$5,915,920 for its cost of administering the funding.
3. Payments to eligible primary producers will be up to 50 per cent of the costs incurred by primary producers, up to a maximum of \$100,000 for eligible activities undertaken from 14 December 2021.
 - a) The State of New South Wales may choose to lower the maximum amount of payments to eligible primary producers.
4. Eligible applicants must:
 - a) Be registered with the Australian Taxation Office as a primary production business and have an Australian Business Number;
 - b) Be property owners, share farmers or lease holders in the horticulture industry;
 - c) Purchase and install protective netting over existing commercial horticultural produce;
 - d) Earn more than 50 percent of their total income from primary production.
5. The land on which netting is to be installed must have an established use of horticultural production prior to 14 December 2021.
6. The protective netting must be purchased and installed to increase horticultural productivity, by reducing the impacts of adverse weather events or animal predation, and to reduce water usage.
7. Protective netting must be purchased and installed after 14 December 2021.
8. Eligibility for the payment applies to the purchase and installation of permanent and throw-over protective netting and associated support structures.
9. Grower co-contributions may include funds provided through loans from the Commonwealth Regional Investment Corporation.
10. To ensure the greatest value for the Program, the following activities are ineligible for funding:
 - a) Projects that have already received assistance from State or Commonwealth grants to achieve the same objectives;

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- b) Projects where the netting and/or associated support structures have been damaged by the bushfires of 2019-20;
 - c) Projects where insurance has been claimed for damaged netting and/or associated support structures;
 - d) Retrospective funding for purchase or works carried out prior to 14 December 2021;
 - e) Feasibility studies, business cases, reports and development plans;
 - f) Costs associated with preparing applications for funding;
 - g) Operational expenditure, including wages, utilities, self-installation, repairs and maintenance;
 - h) Grapes grown for the purposes of viticulture.
11. All funding is to be contracted by the State of New South Wales by 30 June 2024 with completion of all works to be finalised by, and payments made to grantees by, 30 June 2025.
12. It is requested that the State of New South Wales consult with the horticulture industry in that State in developing program guidelines.

Guidance to New South Wales on eligibility for Commonwealth funding for the Wine Recovery Program

13. Residual funds from the Horticultural Netting Program already paid by the Commonwealth to New South Wales will be used for the Wine Recovery Program.
14. The State of New South Wales will retain up to 5 per cent of residual funds for its cost of administering the Wine Recovery Program.

Building Local Demand Program stream

15. Outcome sought – boost demand for New South Wales wine.
16. Eligible funding recipients are:
- a) Not for profit, or incorporated associations or statutory entities that operate in New South Wales under the relevant legislation, each representing the interests of a particular section of the wine grape or wine industry in New South Wales.
17. Eligible projects are those which support domestic uptake in consumption of New South Wales wines:
- a) Supporting the delivery of consumer-focused campaigns and activities to promote New South Wales wine regions;

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- b) Facilitating and supporting domestic inbound trade and media famils to New South Wales wine regions;
 - c) Supporting wine grape or wine organisation presence at domestic trade shows and events to promote New South Wales wine regions;
 - d) Projects must commence after 1 July 2026 and be completed by 31 December 2027.
18. To ensure the greatest value for this program stream, the following activities are ineligible for funding:
- a) Projects that have already received assistance from State or Commonwealth grants to achieve the same objectives;
 - b) Retrospective funding for projects carried out prior to 1 July 2026;
 - c) Costs associated with preparing applications for funding;
 - d) Funding for single vineyard or wine brand promotions;
 - e) Payments for participants to attend training, including time or wages, travel and accommodation.

Regional Grape and Wine Capability Program stream

19. Outcome sought – address mental health and financial challenges, improve industry leadership and long-term strategic direction.
20. Eligible funding recipients are:
- a) Not for profit, or incorporated associations, or statutory entities that operate in New South Wales under the relevant legislation, each representing the interests of a particular section of the wine grape or wine industry in New South Wales.
21. Eligible projects are those which support an increase in capability of regional grape and wine associations or their members:
- a) Supporting the delivery of capability building programs in the areas of mental health, and financial and business resilience to eligible grantees and their members;
 - b) Supporting the delivery of young leader capability building programs to eligible grantees and their members;
 - c) Supporting the delivery of Sustainable Winegrowing Australia training to eligible grantees and their members;
 - d) Projects must commence after 1 July 2026 and be completed by 31 December 2027.

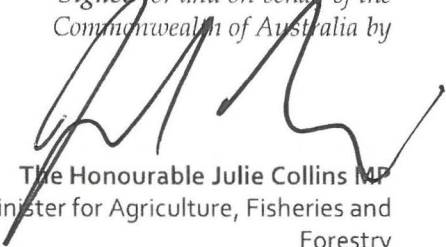
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22. To ensure the greatest value for this program stream, the following activities are ineligible for funding:

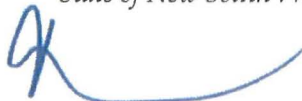
- a) Projects that have already received assistance from State or Commonwealth grants to achieve the same objectives;
- b) Retrospective funding for projects carried out prior to 1 July 2026;
- c) Costs associated with preparing applications for funding;
- d) Payments for participants to attend training, including time or wages, travel and accommodation;
- e) Funding associated with Sustainable Winegrowing Australia membership.

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

*Signed for and on behalf of the
Commonwealth of Australia by*


The Honourable Julie Collins MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and
Forestry

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of New South Wales by*


The Honourable Tara Moriarty MLC
Minister for Agriculture

04/09/2026

Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary			
Outputs	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
1. For the Horticultural Netting Program Delivery of funds to eligible primary producers of commercial horticultural products to purchase and install horticultural netting to increase the productivity of those horticultural orchards/crops. 2. For the NSW Wine Recovery Program Delivery of funds to eligible organisations representing the interests of commercial wine grapes and wine to support the implementation of new programs to build local demand, establish capability initiatives, and realise future opportunities Reports to include: 1. For the Horticulture Netting Program Payments to primary producers: - number of grants; - average grant value; - total grant value. Crops: - average hectares covered by total grant value; - hectares covered by commodity; - total hectares covered.	Execution of funding agreement	30/04/2022	\$5,915,920
	Report detailing all aspects of delivery from commencement to 30 June 2022	30/04/2022	Nil
	Report to include an implementation plan for the delivery of the Program		
	Report detailing all aspects of delivery from 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022	31/01/2023	Nil
	Report detailing all aspects of delivery from 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023	31/07/2023	Nil
	Report detailing all aspects of delivery from 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023	31/01/2024	Nil
	Report detailing all aspects of delivery from 1 January 2024 to 30 June 2024	31/07/2024	Nil
	Report detailing all aspects of delivery from 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024	31/01/2025	Nil
	Report detailing all aspects of delivery from 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025	31/07/2025	Nil
	Report detailing an implementation plan for the delivery of the Wine Recovery Program	Within 3 months of execution of funding agreement	Nil
	Report detailing all aspects of delivery from 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2026	31/01/2027	Nil
	Report detailing all aspects of delivery from 1 January 2027 to 30 June 2027	31/07/2027	Nil
	Report detailing all aspects of delivery from 1 July 2027 to 31 December 2027	31/01/2028	Nil

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Location: • region within the State in which grantee farm is located. Progress with purchase and installation of horticultural netting funding through this Program. 2. For the NSW Wine Recovery Program Building domestic demand stream: • number of grants; • average grant value; • total grant value; • types of activity funded; • location of grant recipient (wine grape or wine organisation) and region of beneficiary grape growers or wine makers. Regional Grape and Wine Capability stream: • number of grants; • average grant value; • total grant value; • location of grant recipient (wine grape or wine organisation) and region of beneficiary grape growers or wine makers.			
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